

THE
INFORMATION
OF

Thomas Lander

OF

Shutborrow in the County of *Stafford*,

Another of the Witneffes in the

TRYAL

OF

The late Lord Stafford.

As it was taken upon Oath

By *Edmund Warcup*, Esquire; one of His Majesties
Justices of the Peace for the County of *Middlesex*,
and City and Liberties of *Westminster*, on the 24th
day of *December*, 1680.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *Thomas Simmons* at the *Princes Arms*
in *Ludgate-street*, MDC LXXXI.

THE
ENTOMBMENT

Thomas I. Lloyd

Subscribed in the County of Stafford

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THE
INFORMATION

OF

Thomas Lander

OF

Shutborton in the County of Stafford,

Taken upon Oath the 24th of December, 1689.
before me *Edmund Warcup*, Esquire, one of his
Majesties Justices of the Peace for the County
of *Middlesex*, and City and Liberties of *Westmin-*
ster, as followeth; viz.

THIS Informant saith, That having been
employed as a Workman several times at
the House of my Lord *Aston* at *Tixall* in
the County aforesaid, he was solicited by
Mr. *Francis Hind*, Steward to the Lord *Aston*, to
become a Witness against *Stephen Dugdale*, late
Steward to the Lord *Aston*, any way to invalidate
or take off his Evidence in relation to the Popish
Plot, and he served this Informant with a *Subpœna*
to come up to *London* for that purpose, at the

late intended Tryal of the said Lord *Aston* in *June* last past; but before his coming up, the said Mr. *Hind*, *Francis Aston*, Son to the Lord *Aston*, and *Thomas Sawyear*, Servant to the said Lord *Aston*, &c. sent for this Informant into a private Room in the said Lord *Aston's* House; and there told him, That if he would swear such things as should be dictated to him by the Persons aforesaid, to invalidate or take off the said *Dugdale's* Evidence, he should have such a Reward as should be to his own content, and not want for Money and Horse, as might become a man of better Quality than himself. And this Informant agreeing to their Proposals, came up to *London* accordingly.

They perswaded this Informant likewise to swear that *Dugdale* was a Cheating Rogue, and had cheated this Informant and many more in the Country, whilst he was the Lord *Aston's* Steward. To which this Informant answered he would, and saith that *Hind* told him, That if he would do according as they directed him, that he should (besides the Rewards agreed upon) have his Charges born in coming to Town, in staying here, and going down again. And likewise saith, that he was to swear that *James Ansell*, (being a Witness in some things relating to the Discovery of the Plot) was a Perjured Rogue, and a Thief, and had perjured himself several times; and all such other things as they should dictate to him when he came up to *London*, in order to take off both their Evidence. And saith those that promised to make good his Reward for so doing, was Mr. *Herbert Aston*, his Lordships Uncle, *Francis Aston*, Son to the

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the Lord *Aston*, and *Thomas Sawyear*, Servant to the said Lord *Aston*.

And this Informant saith, That being in *London*, and my Lord *Aston's* Tryal not being come on, he received no more of his Reward but his bare Charges; however they faithfully promised him when he had made good what he had promised them to swear, he should have his full Reward made good to him.

And this Informant saith, That in *September* last going up to my Lord *Aston's* House, he was made very welcome, and after some time was asked by one of the Servants of my Lord *Aston's*, where Mr. *Dugdale* lay; and this Informant told him, at one *Richard Perkins* next House to his own in *Shrubbery*, about a Mile distant from my Lord *Aston's*; the said Servant, after some discourse had with this Informant, told him that he might do them good service, and have a good Reward for his pains, if he could devise to set fire on the Room where Mr. *Dugdale* lay, and burn him in his Bed. To which this Informant answered, that if he should do so, he should burn his own House, and endanger the whole Town: To which the Servant replied, that it were better that his House and the whole Town were burnt, rather than he (meaning Mr. *Dugdale*) should escape, who was a Rogue, and had betray'd his Lords Secrets, with several other Gentlemen; he at the same time telling this Informant, that he should (if he would undertake it) be well rewarded to his own content; but perceiving this Informant not to be ve-

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ry willing, told him he was a Coward, he would not undertake to do so good a piece of service. The said Servant at the same time went to one *Walter Moore*, another Servant of my Lord *Aston's*, who was to join with this Informant in the said fact; and this Informant going home, saw the said *Walter Moore* walking about the said House that was to be fired; and this Informant not being willing that such a wicked Act should be done, acquainted one of his Neighbours with it, and so a Watch was set to preserve the said House where *Mr. Dugdale* lay, and all the Town, that night, and all the time after so long as *Mr. Dugdale* stayed there. This Informant having likewise heard the said *Moore* say, that *Dugdale* was a Rogue for having betrayed his Lords Secrets: And likewise saith, that when this Informant was to be a Witness for the Lord *Aston*, one *Samuel Holt* who was another Servant of my Lord *Aston's*, and also one *Samyeat*, being Subpan'd up as Witnesses for my Lord *Aston*; they told this Informant, that *Mr. Dugdale* was a Perjured Rogue, for laying the Plot of the Presbyterians upon the Papists; and if they or either of them could meet the said *Mr. Dugdale* conveniently, they would do his business for him: And saith, That the said *Holt* had received a sum of Money for the said service; as likewise the said *Walter Moore*.

And this Informant saith, That all those things which were so by them, as aforesaid, dictated to him, were altogether false, to any knowledge of this Informant, in relation to the said *Mr. Dugdale* and

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and the said Mr. *James Ansell*. And saith that several other Matters and Persons he knows of that were concerned herein (this Informant being always made privy to most of their Contrivances in this nature) that would almost hang them, which he is unwilling to discover against them, for that they are related to him.

Thomas Lander.

Jurat. cor. me

Edmond Warcup.

Dec. 25. 1680.

I Do appoint *Tho. Simmons*, and no other, to Print this my Information, Witness my Hand,

Thomas Lander.

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and the fact that James Apple And that that
several other persons and persons he knows of
that were concerned herein (the informant be-
ing always made privy to most of their Con-
ferences in this nature) that would almost hang
them, which he is unwilling to discover against
them for that they are related to him.

Thomas Lander.

Wm. C. C. M.

Edmond W. C. C.

Dec. 25. 1880.

I Do appoint J. B. Simmon, and no
other, to print this my information,
Witness my hand,

Thomas Lander.

